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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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AMENDMENT

I. INTRODUCTION

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 16, 2002 (Paper No. 6) in regard to the above-identified patent application. Reconsideration of the rejection of the claims is respectfully solicited in light of the following amendment and remarks.

This amendment is being submitted in the revised format as described in AMENDMENTS IN A REVISED FORMAT NOW PERMITTED, signed January 31, 2003, and published on February 25, 2003.

Please amend the Application as follows:

04/04/2003 EFLORES 00000022 09746056

01 FC:1253 02 FC:1202

930.00 OP 162.00 OP

Repln. Ref: 04/04/2003 EFLORES 0010220400 DAW:161350 Name/Number:09746056 \$12.00 CR FC: 9204